

CONSERVATION EFFECTS WORKSHEET

Benchmark Management System			
Name	Address	Resource Setting	Resource Problems Before Treatment
Recreation Land RMS – MLRA 130	North Carolina Mountains	Streamside campground, picnic, and swimming area on John's River in northwest Caldwell County.	Soil erosion and compaction, damaged plants, water quality adversely affected.
Benchmark (Present Management System): None			
Actions – Present Management		Effects of Continuing the Benchmark System	
Operate campground and associated recreation area on a seasonal (summer) basis with limited maintenance.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Soil erosion from heavily used areas ▪ Water quality (turbidity) degraded during rainstorms. ▪ Plants damaged and in unhealthy conditions. ▪ Fish population adversely affected downstream from site. ▪ Air quality degraded on dry days from dust caused by traffic. ▪ Limited income because of summer-only operating season. 	
Treatment Options			
Name	Address	Treatment Option Number	Description of Treatment Option
Recreation Land RMS – MLRA 130	North Carolina Mountains	1	Develop commercial water-based recreation area to include a pond, improvements to stream, campground, picnic area, and hiking trail.
Actions – Proposed Management		Effects of conservation treatment	
342 – Critical Area Planting 378 – Pond 395 – Fish Stream Improvement 560 – Access Road 561 – Heavy Use Area Protection 562 – Recreation Area Improvement 568 – Recreation Trail and Walkway 590 – Nutrient Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increased income from additional visitor days and seasonal use. ▪ Stabilization of eroding areas, including cut and fill slopes. ▪ A water body provided for fish production and other recreation. ▪ More shelter and habitat for trout, small mouth bass, and other game fish. ▪ All-weather access on gravel surface road ▪ High-traffic areas protected against erosion, soil compaction, and damage to plant root systems. ▪ Area protected against erosion and planted with appropriate shrubs and trees. Trees thinned and pruned to remove unsafe conditions. ▪ Trails developed to provide safe access to scenic areas without degradation of resources. ▪ Fertilizer and lime applied at rates and proper timing so that plants will fully utilize nutrients. 		
		Impacts	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Erosion controlled to acceptable levels. ▪ Increased water volume for fish ▪ Opportunity to produce income from fish-out operation ▪ Increased numbers of game fish, which offer more recreation opportunity in fisherman days. Air pollution from dust reduced to minimum levels. ▪ Soil protected against damage ▪ Plants maintained in a healthy and attractive condition. ▪ Clients have all-weather access to facilities. ▪ High level of water quality maintained. Attractive, safe campground draws clients who return year after year producing steady income. Repeat clients increased by 125 per month, April through September. Day-only visits increased by 200 per month, June through August. ▪ Clients enjoy walking around mountains, viewing undamaged plants under all weather conditions. ▪ Surface and ground water unpolluted by applied nutrients. 	
Comments: The use of brand names does not constitute an endorsement by the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).			

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Name	Address	Resource Setting	Resource Problems Before Treatment
Recreation Land RMS – MLRA 153A, 153B	Beaufort County	Private campground with typical day use facilities.	Erosion on trails, camp sites, and lack of visual screens.
Benchmark (Present Management System): No attention given to erosion or surface water disposal.			
Actions – Present Management		Effects of Continuing the Benchmark System	
<p>Opens in mid-March and runs through November 1st. Gravel roads are graded biweekly or as needed to smooth out holes. Campsites get no attention. Grass is mowed but does not receive fertilizer applications. No maintenance for trees and shrubs. Limited access to some areas of the property.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Excessive erosion is creating sediment problems in recreation lake. Has abandoned six campsites because of erosion. ▪ Wildlife habitat values, especially for small game, are poor. ▪ Limited income – producing potential 	

Treatment Options			
Name	Address	Treatment Option Number	Description of Treatment Option
Recreation Land RMS – MLRA 153A, 153B	Beaufort County	1	Surface water management in campsites, paving entrance road, fertilizing and liming based on soil test, seeding critical areas, establishing recreation trails, pruning existing trees and planting attractive trees and vines.
Actions – Proposed Management		Effects of conservation treatment	Impacts
<p>342 – Critical Area Planting 562 – Recreation Area Improvement 566 – Recreation Land Grading and Shaping 568 – Recreation Trail and Walkway 590 – Nutrient Management 595 – Pest Management</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Soil loss reduced to T ▪ Improved wildlife food and cover values ▪ Sediment kept in place ▪ Plants maintained ▪ Wider variety of attractive plants ▪ Better drainage in level areas of site ▪ Reduced erosion and soil compaction along trails ▪ Nutrients and pesticides maintained on site 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improved appearance of campground ▪ More wildlife ▪ Surface and ground water quality improved ▪ Air quality improved ▪ Improved vigor of grass and other plants ▪ More usage days during wet weather (10 days per year increase) ▪ Better all-weather access to recreation area
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